

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., n/k/a QWEST CORPORATION	DOCKET NO. RPU-00-1 (TF-00-64)
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ORDER RESCHEDULING POST-HEARING BRIEFS

(Issued October 31, 2000)

On October 23, 2000, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed a motion for extension of time to file post-hearing briefs. Consumer Advocate's grounds were that Qwest Corporation (Qwest) had not yet filed revised exhibits DLT-3 and DLT-4, as well as more current information about unbundled network element (UNE) loops. Consumer Advocate stated that Qwest indicated at hearing that it would file this information on a late-filed basis and argued that due process and judicial efficiency dictate that the evidentiary record be completed before post-hearing briefs were filed. Finally, Consumer Advocate requested that the initial briefs be due no sooner than five days after Qwest files its additional evidence and the reply briefs one week after that.

AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc., and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., filed joinders in Consumer Advocate's motion on October 24, 2000.

On October 25, 2000, the Utilities Board (Board) extended the October 25, 2000, filing date for briefs. Because it was not clear that the parties agreed on what Qwest must file to complete the evidentiary record, the Board directed the parties to confer and determine what must be filed to complete the record. The Board was to be notified in a joint filing on or before October 30, 2000, 1) if the record was complete, 2) if and when more evidentiary filings would be made, or 3) if the parties could not agree on whether the record is complete, after which the Board would issue an appropriate procedural order.

On October 26, 2000, Qwest filed updated exhibits DLT-2 through DLT-7 and DLT-9 through DLT-13, along with a late-filed exhibit DLT-19. The parties did not make a joint filing on October 30, 2000.

The Board will order that initial post-hearing briefs must be filed on or before November 6, 2000, with reply briefs on November 13, 2000. This is more than the five-day extension originally requested by Consumer Advocate and is the maximum time the Board can grant in light of the December 31, 2000, deadline for geographically deaveraging Qwest's UNE rates.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The parties may file initial briefs on or before November 6, 2000.

2. All parties who filed initial briefs may file reply briefs on or before
November 13, 2000.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.
Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 31st day of October, 2000.